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TO RUMTBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY 0839
RUEHCR/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 2957
RUEHIL/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY 9921
INFO RUSBLK/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 1353
RUMJFS/AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE PRIORITY 4852
RUFHFR/AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY 9779
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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 260857

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E.C. 12356: DECL: OADR
TAGS: MOPS, TH, CB, LA, AF
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE CONGRESSIONAL HEARING -- CW USE IN ASIA

REFS: A) 82 BANGKOK 26384 (DTG 131124Z MAY 82) NOTAL;
B) LONDON 07720 (DTG 041233Z APR 84) NOTAL

1. (U) CONGRESSMAN STEVEN SOLARZ, CHAIRMAN SUBCOMMITTEE ON ASIAN AND PACIFIC AFFAIRS OF THE HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE, HAS INDICATED A STRONG DESIRE TO HOLD HEARINGS ON CHEMICAL AND TOXIN WEAPONS USE IN ASIA IN MID TO LATE SEPTEMBER. THE CONGRESSMAN WOULD LIKE TO HAVE AFGHANS, DEFECTORS, OR OTHERS WITH PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE ON THESE MATTERS TESTIFY AT THE HEARINGS. HE WOULD ALSO LIKE TO RECEIVE PHOTOGRAPHS, ANY SAMPLES, OR OTHER SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION RELEVANT TO THE SUBJECT OF THE HEARINGS.

2. (C) FOR BANGKOK: REF A IDENTIFIES FIVE PAVN SOLDIERS INTERVIEWED BY EMBASSY OFFICERS IN MAY 1982. PLEASE ASCERTAIN IF THOSE INDIVIDUALS OR OTHERS WITH CREDIBLE, FIRST HAND KNOWLEDGE CAN BE LOCATED AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO COME TO WASHINGTON TO TESTIFY. PLEASE ALSO ADVISE IF ANY RECOMMENDED INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO POLYGRAPH TESTING TO VERIFY THEIR TESTIMONY.

3. (C) FOR ISLAMABAD AND PESHAWAR: REF B REPORTS DEFECTION OF SENIOR DRA CHEMICAL OFFICER, BRIGADIER WATAY, AND HIS TESTIMONY ON THE USE OF CW BY SOVIET FORCES IN AFGHANISTAN. PLEASE ASCERTAIN IF BRIGADIER WATAY, OR OTHERS WITH CREDIBLE, FIRST HAND KNOWLEDGE OF CW USE, CAN BE LOCATED AND WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO COME TO WASHINGTON TO TESTIFY. PLEASE ALSO ADVISE IF ANY RECOMMENDED INDIVIDUALS HAVE BEEN SUBJECTED TO POLYGRAPH TESTING TO VERIFY THEIR TESTIMONY. WASHINGTON-BASED COMMITTEE FOR A FREE AFGHANISTAN HAS SUGGESTED THAT SENIOR AFGHANISTAN ASSISTANCE OFFICER, BRIGADIER SAFI, WHO IS SCHEDULED TO BE IN THE U.S. IN SEPTEMBER, MIGHT MAKE A GOOD WITNESS FOR THE POSSIBLE CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS. POSTS VIEWS ON BRIGADIER SAFI WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

4. (U) THIS IS A JOINT STATE-ACDA MESSAGE.

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5. KABUL MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

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END OF MESSAGE

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